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REVIEWS.

A FORMULARY OF THE PAPAL PENITENTIARY IN THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY. Edited by Henry Charles Lea, LL.D. Philadelphia: Lea Brothers & Co., 1892. Pages xxxviii, 183.

In a legal periodical it is not possible to give Mr. Lea's latest work the notice which its importance in its own field deserves. Students of Church history, and particularly of the development of the system of ecclesiastical discipline still exercised from Rome over both laity and clergy, will look upon the documents comprised in this book very much as students of the history of the common law would look upon the discovery of a new set of year books earlier and more complete than any before known. Mr. Lea's name is a guaranty that the editing and annotations add very greatly to the value of the text. The same may be said of the preliminary sketch,—making, however, the usual deduction for Mr. Lea's invariable bias against the Church. His frame of mind is not quite judicial.

P. S. A.

THE OLD ENGLISH MANOR, A STUDY IN ENGLISH ECONOMIC HISTORY. By Charles McLean Andrews, Ph.D. One volume. Pages xi, 291. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1892.

The work before us is concerned chiefly with lay history. It essays to reconstruct the village and manorial system of England in the eleventh century. This should involve the legal conception of the system. And Mr. Andrews has given this side of the question due attention, while devoting his book mainly to its historical and economical aspects.

The attempt is not only to give in skeleton the theory of the manorial system, but also to describe in detail the manners and customs of the time. The latter purpose is illustrated by the following titles: Cap. IV., The Special Workers; Cap. V., The Yearly Routine of Work; Cap. VI. (a), The Farm and House Utensils, (b) Recreations. And to this end all Anglo-Saxon literature has been levied on.

But to some the most interesting feature of the work will be the Introduction, giving the history of the mark theory, and its modified shape of to-day. The writer draws attention to the waning faith in that historical and economic unit, the Saxon village community, being an instance of unmodified liberty and democracy; and, in general, asserts that the character of the mark and of its later development, the manor, will be settled as neither entirely free nor entirely servile.

The book is not of the so-called popular variety, but is closely written, scholarly, and, embodying much evidential matter, gives the results of thorough research. In style it is not winning. But for one who wishes to grasp the content of that shadowy term, "manor," it is to be highly recommended.

J. C.